## WILKINSON ) BARKER KNAUER LLP

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September 30, 2005

## Via ECFS

Marlete H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 Twelfth Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: Notice of ex parte communication - CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This is to provide notice of an ex parte communication that occurred on Wednesday, September 28, 2005, in a telephone conversation between Jerry Elliott, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Citizens Communications, and Thomas Navin, Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau. Mr. Elliott called Mr. Navin to inquire regarding the status of Frontier Communications' and Citizens Communications' (collectively "Frontier") petition for waiver of the line count filing deadline for Interstate Access Support ("IAS") (the "Petition"). In the course of the conversation, Mr. Elliott explained the importance to Frontier of quick action on the Petition. Specifically, Mr. Elliott explained that Friday, September 30, 2005, is the last day of the Third Quarter, triggering reporting obligations for Frontier as a publicly traded company. Further, approximately four weeks after the reporting deadline, Frontier will disclose its quarterly financial results to the public. Favorable action on the petition before that meeting will permit Frontier to explain in the meeting that the funds will be forthcoming.

Mr. Elliott also pointed out that the delay in receiving the funding is having concrete impacts on the company's capital spending. Funds have had to be shifted among projects and certain projects put on hold in order to address the lost support.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Citizens Communications and Frontier Communications Request for Review of a Decision of the Universal Service Administrator and Petition for Waiver of FCC Rule Section 54.802(a), CC Docket No. 96-45 (filed July 8, 2005). The Petition impacts 31 separate rural price cap companies operating in 19 states and 41 study areas under the Citizens Communications parent company umbrella. The Petition's public notice period has passed without any comment being filed.

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Consistent with the Commission's ex parte rules, this letter is being filed electronically in the above-referenced docket. Please direct any questions regarding this filing to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

WILKINSON BARKER KNAUER, LLP

By: /s/ L. Charles Keller

cc: Thomas Navin Jeremy Marcus